

# TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY



IN THE MATTER OF AN  
ENFORCEMENT ACTION  
CONCERNING  
JOE'S & CHO, INC. DBA JOE'S  
FUTURE FOOD MART  
RN101432268

§ BEFORE THE  
§  
§ TEXAS COMMISSION ON  
§  
§ ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

## AGREED ORDER DOCKET NO. 2014-0568-PST-E

### I. JURISDICTION AND STIPULATIONS

OCT 01 2014

On \_\_\_\_\_, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality ("the Commission" or "TCEQ") considered this agreement of the parties, resolving an enforcement action regarding Joe's & Cho, Inc. dba Joe's Future Food Mart ("Respondent") under the authority of TEX. HEALTH & SAFETY CODE ch. 382 and TEX. WATER CODE Ch. 7. The Executive Director of the TCEQ, through the Enforcement Division, and the Respondent together stipulate that:

1. The Respondent owns and operates a convenience store with retail sales of gasoline at 4225 Miller Avenue in Fort Worth, Tarrant County, Texas (the "Station").
2. The Station consists of one or more sources as defined in TEX. HEALTH & SAFETY CODE § 382.003(12).
3. The Executive Director and the Respondent agree that the Commission has jurisdiction to enter this Agreed Order, and that the Respondent is subject to the Commission's jurisdiction.
4. The Respondent received notice of the violations alleged in Section II ("Allegations") on or about March 31, 2014.
5. The occurrence of any violation is in dispute and the entry of this Agreed Order shall not constitute an admission by the Respondent of any violation alleged in Section II ("Allegations"), nor of any statute or rule.
6. An administrative penalty in the amount of One Thousand Five Hundred Sixty-Two Dollars (\$1,562) is assessed by the Commission in settlement of the violations alleged in

Section II ("Allegations"). The Respondent has paid Three Hundred Twelve Dollars (\$312) of the administrative penalty and Three Hundred Twelve Dollars (\$312) is deferred contingent upon the Respondent's timely and satisfactory compliance with all the terms of this Agreed Order. If the Respondent fails to timely and satisfactorily comply with all requirements of this Agreed Order, including the payment schedule, the Executive Director may require the Respondent to pay all or part of the deferred penalty.

The remaining amount of Nine Hundred Thirty-Eight Dollars (\$938) of the administrative penalty shall be payable in 7 monthly payments of One Hundred Thirty-Four Dollars (\$134) each. The next monthly payment shall be paid within 30 days after the effective date of this Agreed Order. The subsequent payments shall each be paid not later than 30 days following the due date of the previous payment until paid in full. If the Respondent fails to timely and satisfactorily comply with the payment requirements of this Agreed Order, the Executive Director may, at the Executive Director's option, accelerate the maturity of the remaining installments, in which event the unpaid balance shall become immediately due and payable without demand or notice. In addition, the failure of the Respondent to meet the payment schedule of this Agreed Order constitutes the failure by the Respondent to timely and satisfactorily comply with all the terms of this Agreed Order.

7. Any notice and procedures, which might otherwise be authorized or required in this action, are waived in the interest of a more timely resolution of the matter.
8. The Executive Director and the Respondent agree on a settlement of the matters alleged in this enforcement action, subject to final approval in accordance with 30 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 70.10(a).
9. The Executive Director may, without further notice or hearing, refer this matter to the Office of the Attorney General of the State of Texas ("OAG") for further enforcement proceedings if the Executive Director determines that the Respondent has not complied with one or more of the terms or conditions in this Agreed Order.
10. This Agreed Order shall terminate five years from its effective date or upon compliance with all the terms and conditions set forth in this Agreed Order, whichever is later.
11. The provisions of this Agreed Order are deemed severable and, if a court of competent jurisdiction or other appropriate authority deems any provision of this Agreed Order unenforceable, the remaining provisions shall be valid and enforceable.

## II. ALLEGATIONS

As owner and operator of the Station, the Respondent is alleged to have failed to maintain the Stage II vapor recovery system in proper operating condition, as specified by the manufacturer and/or any applicable California Air Resources Board Executive Order ("CARB"), and free of defects that would impair the effectiveness of the system, in violation of 30 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 115.242(d)(3)(C) and (E), as documented during an investigation conducted on February 20, 2014. Specifically, the nozzle boot on dispenser no. 4 was torn with a slit greater than one inch in length and the vapor escape guard attached to dispenser no. 2 was damaged.

### III. DENIALS

The Respondent generally denies each allegation in Section II ("Allegations").

### IV. ORDERING PROVISIONS

1. It is, therefore, ordered by the TCEQ that the Respondent pay an administrative penalty as set forth in Section I, Paragraph 6 above. The payment of this administrative penalty and the Respondent's compliance with all the terms and conditions set forth in this Agreed Order resolve only the allegations in Section II. The Commission shall not be constrained in any manner from requiring corrective action or penalties for violations which are not raised here. Administrative penalty payments shall be made payable to "TCEQ" and shall be sent with the notation "Re: Joe's & Cho, Inc. dba Joe's Future Food Mart, Docket No. 2014-0568-PST-E" to:

Financial Administration Division, Revenue Operations Section  
Attention: Cashier's Office, MC 214  
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality  
P.O. Box 13088  
Austin, Texas 78711-3088

2. It is further ordered that the Respondent shall undertake the following technical requirements:

- a. Within 30 days after the effective date of this Agreed Order, install, repair and maintain all Stage II equipment as specified by the manufacturer and/or any applicable CARB Executive Order, and free of defects that would impair the effectiveness of the system, including but not limited to replacing the torn nozzle boot on dispenser no. 4 and the damaged vapor escape guard on dispenser no. 2, in accordance with 30 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 115.242; and
- b. Within 45 days after the effective date of this Agreed Order, submit written certification as described below, and include detailed supporting documentation including photographs, receipts, and/or other records to demonstrate compliance with Ordering Provision No. 2.a. The certification shall be notarized by a State of Texas Notary Public and include the following certification language:

"I certify under penalty of law that I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted and all attached documents, and that based on my inquiry of those individuals immediately responsible for obtaining the information, I believe that the submitted information is true, accurate and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fines and imprisonment for knowing violations."

The certification shall be submitted to:

Order Compliance Team  
Enforcement Division, MC 149A  
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality  
P.O. Box 13087  
Austin, Texas 78711-3087

with a copy to:

Waste Section Manager  
Dallas/Fort Worth Regional Office  
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality  
2309 Gravel Drive  
Fort Worth, Texas 76118-6951

3. The provisions of this Agreed Order shall apply to and be binding upon the Respondent. The Respondent is ordered to give notice of the Agreed Order to personnel who maintain day-to-day control over the Station operations referenced in this Agreed Order.
4. If the Respondent fails to comply with any of the Ordering Provisions in this Agreed Order within the prescribed schedules, and that failure is caused solely by an act of God, war, strike, riot, or other catastrophe, the Respondent's failure to comply is not a violation of this Agreed Order. The Respondent shall have the burden of establishing to the Executive Director's satisfaction that such an event has occurred. The Respondent shall notify the Executive Director within seven days after the Respondent becomes aware of a delaying event and shall take all reasonable measures to mitigate and minimize any delay.
5. The Executive Director may grant an extension of any deadline in this Agreed Order or in any plan, report, or other document submitted pursuant to this Agreed Order, upon a written and substantiated showing of good cause. All requests for extensions by the Respondent shall be made in writing to the Executive Director. Extensions are not effective until the Respondent receives written approval from the Executive Director. The determination of what constitutes good cause rests solely with the Executive Director.
6. This Agreed Order, issued by the Commission, shall not be admissible against the Respondent in a civil proceeding, unless the proceeding is brought by the OAG to: (1) enforce the terms of this Agreed Order; or (2) pursue violations of a statute within the Commission's jurisdiction, or of a rule adopted or an order or permit issued by the Commission under such a statute.
7. This Agreed Order may be executed in separate and multiple counterparts, which together shall constitute a single instrument. Any page of this Agreed Order may be copied, scanned, digitized, converted to electronic portable document format ("pdf"), or otherwise reproduced and may be transmitted by digital or electronic transmission, including but not limited to facsimile transmission and electronic mail. Any signature affixed to this Agreed Order shall constitute an original signature for all purposes and may be used, filed, substituted, or issued for any purpose for which an original signature

could be used. The term "signature" shall include manual signatures and true and accurate reproductions of manual signatures created, executed, endorsed, adopted, or authorized by the person or persons to whom the signatures are attributable. Signatures may be copied or reproduced digitally, electronically, by photocopying, engraving, imprinting, lithographing, electronic mail, facsimile transmission, stamping, or any other means or process which the Executive Director deems acceptable. In this paragraph exclusively, the terms "electronic transmission", "owner", "person", "writing", and "written" shall have the meanings assigned to them under TEX. BUS. ORG. CODE § 1.002.

8. Under 30 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 70.10(b), the effective date is the date of hand-delivery of the Order to the Respondent, or three days after the date on which the Commission mails notice of the Order to the Respondent, whichever is earlier.

Joe's & Cho, Inc. dba Joe's Future Food Mart  
DOCKET NO. 2014-0568-PST-E  
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## SIGNATURE PAGE

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

For the Commission

Bryan Sinclair  
For the Executive Director

Date

10/1/2014

I, the undersigned, have read and understand the attached Agreed Order. I am authorized to agree to the attached Agreed Order on behalf of the entity indicated below my signature, and I do agree to the terms and conditions specified therein. I further acknowledge that the TCEQ, in accepting payment for the penalty amount, is materially relying on such representation.

I also understand that failure to comply with the Ordering Provisions, if any, in this order and/or failure to timely pay the penalty amount, may result in:

- A negative impact on compliance history;
- Greater scrutiny of any permit applications submitted;
- Referral of this case to the Attorney General's Office for contempt, injunctive relief, additional penalties, and/or attorney fees, or to a collection agency;
- Increased penalties in any future enforcement actions;
- Automatic referral to the Attorney General's Office of any future enforcement actions; and
- TCEQ seeking other relief as authorized by law.

In addition, any falsification of any compliance documents may result in criminal prosecution.

Signature

Anna Cho

Date

8-15-14

Name (Printed or typed)

ANNA CHO

Title

OWNER

Authorized Representative of

Joe's & Cho, Inc. dba Joe's Future Food Mart

Instructions: Send the original, signed Agreed Order with penalty payment to the Financial Administration Division, Revenue Operations Section at the address in Section IV, Paragraph 1 of this Agreed Order.

Bryan W. Shaw, Ph.D., *Chairman*  
Toby Baker, *Commissioner*  
Zak Covar, *Commissioner*  
Richard A. Hyde, P.E., *Executive Director*



## TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

*Protecting Texas by Reducing and Preventing Pollution*

October 3, 2014

### CERTIFIED MAIL RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Ae Ok Park, Director  
Joe's & Cho, Inc.  
4225 Miller Avenue  
Fort Worth, Texas 76119-3646

Re: TCEQ Enforcement Action  
Joe's & Cho, Inc. dba Joe's Future Food Mart  
Docket No. 2014-0568-PST-E

Dear Mr. Park:

Enclosed for your records is a fully-executed copy of the Agreed Order for the above-referenced matter.

Please review the enclosed Agreed Order, particularly the "Ordering Provisions" section, to determine if further action will be required of you, such as the completion of technical requirements to achieve compliance. When technical requirements are listed (usually Ordering Provision No. 2 or 3), a deadline will be provided based on a specific number of days after the effective date. The effective date of this Agreed Order is three days after the date printed at the top of this letter.

Should you have any questions, please contact Margarita Dennis, the Enforcement Coordinator assigned to this matter, at (817) 588-5892.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Candice Garrett".

Candice Garrett  
Enforcement Division

Enclosure

cc: Margarita Dennis, Enforcement Division  
Petroleum Storage Tank Section Manager, Region 4

7013 2250 0001 0228 4292

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Mr. Ae Ok Park, Director  
Joe's & Cho, Inc.  
4225 Miller Avenue  
Fort Worth, Texas 76119-3646

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for instructions